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which resents mere dogma and insists upon the realities of life." And he quotes from Harnack an application of this spirit of the age to the situation in the churches.

(a) The confessional or credal differences of the two churches [Roman and Protestant] must be entirely removed from the political sphere; (b) each party must try to be perfectly just to the other; (c) all useless controversies must be avoided and a fair and honest method of controversy instituted; (d) each church must earnestly try to appreciate the religious and spiritual life of the other; (e) a higher uniting, and the attainment of a truth which now lies beyond the grasp of both churches, must be held up as the final ideal. The faithful application of these principles in Christian brotherhood will eventually accomplish the reunion of Christendom.

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THE OPPORTUNITIES OF A MODERN PASTOR

The American pulpit has enjoyed the services of few more useful men than Washington Gladden who, for many years has been the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Columbus, Ohio. He not only has been leader in his own denomination but has exerted a widening influence upon the life of the nation, particularly through his books whose titles run to something like thirty.

In a volume, which is not exactly an autobiography and yet has much of the value of such a work, Dr. Gladden tells something of his experiences through seventy odd years.¹ His comments upon the school life of his boyhood are interesting as revealing something of the value which hardship and the limitation of country life afford in the making of character. His experiences in college, seminary, and early pastorates are also suggestive. In all of these matters, however, Dr. Gladden maintains a reticence in reference to his own personal life and experiences which is not wholly accounted for by his modesty of spirit. Perhaps the chief defect of the book as a work in the disclosure of character is this restraint which consciously or unconsciously has been put upon the pen. So much is told regarding the influences in the midst of which his career was shaped that it would be profoundly interesting to know something further of those inner experiences which make up the significant forces of a useful career.

The most valuable element in this life story is its sensible and interpreting comment upon the public life of America during the past fifty years

¹*Recollections.* By Washington Gladden. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1909
431 pages. \$2.00 net.

Quite the most sympathetic and impressive portions of the book are those which deal with the struggle of the nation over the question of slavery, and Mr. Lincoln's part in bringing about the results that were achieved.

On two other themes the book has value. One is the development of the spirit of responsibility for proper relations between the church and labor. From his early years as a pastor Dr. Gladden confesses his growing concern that the church should take a proper interest in the social and industrial problems which were rapidly becoming significant in American life. No one who has watched his successive utterances on these themes, from his book, *Workingmen and Their Employers*, published in 1885, to *Christianity and Socialism*, published twenty years later, could doubt his interest in the theme or the value of the contributions he has made to its adjustment. The other topic is that of the progressive interpretation of the Bible and Christian theology in terms of present experience. It is surprising to those who think of Dr. Gladden as an honored and trusted leader in the Congregational church to read his confession that for many years and almost to the present decade he has been regarded as a heretic by many of his brethren. But it is sufficiently clear that the type of evangelical Christianity which he represents is the one which best meets the needs of the modern world. And this volume is an admirable disclosure of the ways in which the suspected and opposed opinions of one generation become the standard of orthodoxy in the next.

The life of any man who has rendered as valuable service to his generation as Washington Gladden is eminently worth reading, and particularly when the story is told by the chief actor. If these *Recollections* do not constitute the most valuable biography of the year, they are at least very serviceable to young men who would like to know how best to employ the materials at hand in this generation for successful service in the one close at hand.

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THE COMING CHRISTIANITY OF THE ORIENT

So general is the disrepute into which the word "rhetorical" has fallen in our day, that one hesitates to use it in describing the form in which Dr. Hall's "Barrows Lectures" are presented.¹ But it is really the fitting

¹*Christ and the Eastern Soul: The Witness of the Oriental Consciousness to Jesus Christ.* By Charles Cuthbert Hall, D.D., LL.D., late President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York. The Barrows Lectures 1906-7, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1909. xli+208 pages. \$1.37.